

INSURANCE MEN AND OTHERS DISCUSS CANADA'S FIRE LOSS

Big Gathering in Ottawa of Business Men Who Were Addressed by Sir Thomas White—Canada's Fire Loss the Greatest of Any Country in the World—Recommendations in the Matter Will be Given Every Consideration.

Ottawa, Dec. 13.—Methods of preventing Canada's huge annual fire waste were under discussion at an important convention, called by the representatives of insurance, which opened in Ottawa today. Sir Thomas White, tendered a welcome on behalf of the government. Delegates were present from the Canadian Fire Underwriters' Association, the Cash Mutual Insurance Company, Canadian Manufacturers' Association, Canadian Creditors' Association, Retail Merchants' Association, United Farmers of Alberta, United Farmers of Ontario, Wholesale Grocers' Association, Canadian Bankers' Association, Dominion Mortgage and Investment Association, Fire Chieftains' Association, and the Commission of Conservation. Sir Thomas, in addressing the delegates, emphasized the need for study of means to prevent the Dominion's annual fire waste. Waste and its prevention, he said, were among the most advanced thought of the day—in agriculture, business and ecologically. War was one of the greatest wastes mankind has ever known. In regard to fire waste, Canada appeared to have the unenviable position of having the greatest fire loss

per capita of any country in the world. In Switzerland and the Netherlands, the annual fire loss was about one dollar per capita. In Canada the per capita loss was about \$2.50. No doubt, this was due to the fact that Canada was a country of sparse population, with an immense extent of territory. But that, Sir Thomas added, does not, in any way, account for it, and it is the duty of the government to take steps to reduce the fire loss in Canada.

Over a period of five years, ending 1917, the annual fire loss of Canada was \$17,000,000, or an average of \$2.50 per capita. Last year the loss was \$20,000,000, and this year, so far as could be ascertained, might reach \$25,000,000. Statistical information showed that from fifty to seventy-five per cent of that loss was wholly preventable.

Sir Thomas concluded by recommending that the recommendations of the convention would receive the most careful consideration by the government.

MEAT PACKERS WANT A LONGER CHANCE

To Enjoy Their War-time Profits—Are Afraid That Reduction Will Hurt Their Purse.

Ottawa, Dec. 13.—Canadian meat packers are seeking to be relieved of the wartime limit placed on their profits. A delegation from the larger firms waited on the government today to this effect. It was represented that the limit placed on Canadian packers' profits was preventing the establishment within Canada of further cold storage enterprises, would tend to drive existing enterprises out of the business and restrict the further expansion.

The order in council imposing the limit was passed in March and made retroactive to January 1 last. It was to continue in force "during the present war and until further orders."

EVERYBODY FREE IN CIRCUIT COURT

Dartmouth, Dec. 13.—The case of Arthur Boudreau of Moncton, charged with theft, was concluded this morning before Mr. Justice Barry in the circuit court, the accused being acquitted by the jury.

Wm. O'Connell of the Parish of Moncton was last tried on the charge of assaulting a police officer and insulting a riot in the City of Moncton on the night of the coronation of the king of the armistice. He was also acquitted. This concluded the business of the court which adjourned, sine die. The non-jury trial case of Hon. E. A. Smith vs. Isabelle Aveson of the district is set down for trial at Moncton of January 1.

Oh! the Charm of Beauty

What a Charm Calcium Waters Have for the Color to Your Complexion and the Softness to Your Skin.

Every one desires a beautiful skin, just as every one desires a healthy person. Unsightly faces filled with pimples, discolored, blackheads, etc., are nothing but unhealthy faces due to blood impurities. Cleanse the blood and the facial blemishes will disappear.

You must not believe that drugs and calve will stop facial blemishes. The cause is impure blood filled with all manner of refuse matter. Stuart's Calcium Waters cleanse and clear the blood, driving out all poisons and impurities. And you'll never have a good complexion until the blood is clean.

No matter how bad your complexion is, Stuart's Calcium Waters will work wonders with it. You can get these little wonder-workers at your druggists for 50 cents a package.

FREE TRIAL COUPON

P. A. Stuart Co., 733, Stuart St., Montreal, N.B. Send me at once, by return mail, a free trial package of Stuart's Calcium Waters.

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LUXOR TEMPLE MYSTIC SHRINE

Grand Ceremonial Session Held Last Night—Degree Conferred on Seven Candidates—History of the Mystic Shrine.

Luxor Temple of the Mystic Shrine held a ceremonial session in their rooms, 1400-1401, last night, and nobles from all over the province were present. The degree was conferred on seven candidates and while the public are unaware of just how these gentlemen were created it is safe to say that they will receive their first night with Luxor. The ceremony was presided over by those on the outside were admitted, refreshments were served, the signs were passed around, a couple of hours of real entertainment were enjoyed by all, and Potentate H. R. McAlister, Recorder Charles Robinson, George R. Day of the executive, and other officers of the temple were kept busy looking after the comfort of their present noble Walter O. McKay, manager of the Opera House, arrived on the scene with his orchestra and some of the grandest artists who are now appearing at this theatre, and with music and song the members of the Shrine spent a most enjoyable time.

You are aware that the Order of the Mystic Shrine is one of the oldest in the world and a brief history of its beginnings and growth is of interest. The original intention of the order was to form a band of men of sterling worth who would dispense justice and execute punishment upon criminals who escaped their just desserts through the tardiness of the courts; that they should try, judge and execute within the hour, if need be, upon valid accusation, having taken precautions as to security and secrecy. The band, or Nobles, thus formed, as history tells us, did such prompt and efficient work that they excited alarm and even consternation in the hearts of the evil doers in all countries under the Star and Crescent.

The order today is one of the most highly favored among the many secret societies which abound in Oriental countries and gathers around its shrines a select few of the best, educated and cultured citizens. The membership in all countries includes Christians, Israelites and Moslems. One of the most noted patrons of the order was the Khedive of Egypt, whose inclination toward Christians is well known.

In the Oriental countries their ostensible object is to increase the faith and fidelity of all true believers in Allah. Records show among the names who have been members those of Frederick the Great; Miran, who was a Duke of Orleans, as well as Lord Bacon, the English statesman, who sat on a wool sack in the British parliament, and a long list of others, whose works are

large and free the mind from the influence of dogma and prejudice.

The order was brought to America by William J. Florence, a popular comedian, who was induced into the mysteries of an Egyptian temple at Cairo. Soon after his return to this country, he imparted the ceremony to Dr. Walter M. Fleming of New York, who he empowered to introduce and establish the order in America, and the first meeting held in this country was at Masonic Hall, 114 East Thirtieth street, New York city, where 11 thirty-second degree and Knight Templar Masters were called together and there necessary arrangements were made to hold a regular session of the order on September 24, 1878, at which time Luxor Temple of New York city was formed. Luxor Temple upon its formation had taken in two additional original members besides the 11 first met, making the original first membership 13, of whom every one of this original have passed to the Great Beyond. Dr. William M. Fleming being the last, whose death occurred in 1914. Luxor Temple held regular meetings until about January, 1879, when they began to receive applications and confer degrees. At about this time, Luxor Temple of Rochester, N. Y., was formed, with a membership of about 15.

On October 24, 1874, the following year, Mt. Sinai Temple of Montreal, Vermont, was formed, so that the three oldest temples in the order are Luxor, Damascus and Mt. Sinai. Since 1874, the order has grown wonderfully and there are today in North America 141 temples, with a membership of something over 250,000. The Imperial Council of the Order was organized on June 8, 1876, and the first Imperial Potentate was Dr. Walter M. Fleming, of New York, who held the office until June 14, 1884, since which time the term of office of Imperial Potentate has been for but one year, with one exception, that of William B. Melish, of Cincinnati, Past Grand Imperial Commander of the United States, who was twice elected to the office. There have been since the order was instituted in 1876, 27 imperial potentates. Of this number there are 17 alive, the rest having passed to the Great Beyond.

ARE LOOKING FOR ESCAPED PRISONER

Local police officials have received word to the effect that there be on the watch for James Wakefield, alias James Winn, of Buchanan County, Missouri, who escaped prison officials at that place, after being arranged on the charge of theft, and attempting to kill. Wakefield is described as being 24 years of age, weighing 145 pounds and of light complexion among marks of identification are special tattoo marks on his right arm.

The communication stated that he was arrested in September, 1918, and

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NO EASY JOB.

Birmingham, England, Dec. 13.—While expressing his earnest desire to see a league of nations established, J. Amos Chamberlain, member of the war cabinet, in an address here last night warned his hearers of the difficulties of the task set the nations of the world. It could not be achieved in a long time, he declared, and it probably would only come as the result of a slow growth of many years.

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Suggestions for Christmas Gifts

Almost limitless is the variety of Holiday Gift articles comprised in our selection showing which was never larger or more complete than at present, offering, as it does, a host of suggestions appropriate for young and old, in

DIAMONDS, JEWELRY, WATCHES, CLOCKS, SILVERWARE, CUT GLASS, ART DEPOSIT WARE.

We offer you here a partial list:—

For the Wee Ones—Silver and Pearl Rattles, Porcelain, Mugs, Feeding Spoons, Knives, Forks and Spoon Sets, Dress Pins, (three in set), Rib and Safety Pins, Neck Chains and Lockets, Brooches, Rings, Brush and Comb Sets, and many such suitable remembrances.

For Girls and Misses—Watch Brooches in large variety, including most of the popular effects. Neck Chains and Pendants, Brooches, Bar Pins, Rings, Manicure and Toilet Sets, Jewel Boxes and a wide range of equally appropriate Holiday Gifts.

For the Boys—Some exceptional values in Silver and in Gold Filled Watches (boys' sizes), for the pocket, also Wrist Watches, Gold Signet Rings, Cuff Links, Scarf Pins, Fob Chains, Vest Chains, and numerous other articles which boys would welcome as Christmas gifts.

For the Ladies—Diamond Rings, Gem Set Rings of all kinds; Exclusive effects in Platinum Diamond Set Lavallieres, Pendants, Bar Pins, Brooches, Bracelets, Finger Rings.

A full assortment of the choicest selections in Gold Jewelry of every description for ladies. Also Silver Toilet Sets, Manicure Sets, Jewel Cases, Novelties, Odds-and-Ends.

For Fathers and Mothers—Extremely valuable in Watches for the Pocket and Wrist Watches; also in Fob, Vest Chains and Waldermans, Cuff Links, Tie Clips, Scarf Pins, Studs, Vest Buttons, Signet Rings, Lockets, Pencil Cases, Cigar and Cigarette Cases, Match Boxes and Cigar Cutters.

Only a personal inspection will enable you fully to appreciate the possibilities our display offers the Holiday Gift-seeker.

We invite all of our fellow-citizens and outsiders to call and in spect our extensive showing of Christmas merchandise.

FERGUSON & PAGE

Diamond Importers and Jewelers 41 King Street

The Freedom of the Seas

WHAT IT MEANS IN AMERICA, ENGLAND, AND FRANCE

There is a very interesting article in this week's LITERARY DIGEST—December 14th—bearing upon the most vital topic likely to be discussed at the great peace conference—the Freedom of the Seas.

While Lieutenant-Colonel Repington, the famous British Military Expert, remarks that: "I have not the slightest idea what freedom of the seas means, nor have I met anyone who can tell me," London and French newspapers have quite definite ideas as to its meaning.

Much of the comment in the London and Paris papers emphasizes the fact that President Wilson has not yet defined what he means by freedom of the seas, but most of the French journals agree with the Paris Matin when it says "if this doctrine means any diminution of the power of the British navy, France will reject it."

Other articles of timely interest in this number of THE DIGEST are:

Making War On Our Chief Peacemaker

Summarizing All Shades of Public Opinion Regarding President Wilson's Visit to Europe and His Presence at the Peace Table

Turning to the Pursuits of Peace

War Prices and Peace Wages

Shall We Take German Africa?

Russia's Chaos Laid to the Allies

Abolishing the Private Kitchen

Why Arc Light Globes Turn Purple

New York's Arch of Thanksgiving and Welcome

A Way Open for Shakespeare

Cannon for Peace Bells

Christmas a Time for Food Service

(Prepared by U. S. Food Administration)

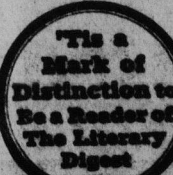
Many Timely Illustrations Including Humorous Cartoons

Just Ready—New Armistice Edition of The Digest Liberty Map

Every patriotic American will want to know just where the war was won and to follow the movements of the victorious armies of occupation. The wonderful NEW Armistice Edition of The Literary Digest Liberty Map of the Western Area of the war, now ready, shows you the German territory surrendered, the bridgeheads extending East of the Rhine, and the Neutral Zone. It gives the line reached by the Allied Armies at the moment when hostilities ceased, shows German Great Headquarters, the spot where Marshal Foch imposed the armistice terms, the boundaries of the recovered provinces of Alsace and Lorraine, and

12,000 towns and villages, with separate finding index; railways, highways, canals, etc. One special insert map shows the whole field of operations, including Russia, Mesopotamia, and the Balkans, and another the coal and iron areas in the belligerent countries. Strikingly printed in four colors on strong bond paper, size 4 ft. 4 in. by 3 ft. 6 in., \$2.75; on special Map Cloth, same size, \$4.50; latter style with Wall Hanger and Roller, complete, \$5.50. To be had at all bookstores or directly from THE LITERARY DIGEST, 354-360 Fourth Avenue, New York, on receipt of the price. Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded.

December 14th Number on Sale Today—All News-dealers—10 Cents.



The Literary Digest

FUNK & WAGNALLS COMPANY (Publishers of the Famous NEW Standard Dictionary), NEW YORK